

**REMARKS**

Please reconsider the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Applicant thanks the Examiner for carefully considering this application and indicating that claims 8-10, 12-14, 16, 22 and 23 are allowable.

**1. Disposition of Claims**

Claims 1-10, 12-18, and 21-23 were pending in this application. Claims 1-7, 15, 17-18, and 21 are cancelled by this reply without prejudice or disclaimer. Therefore, claims 8-10, 12-14, 16, 22 and 23 are pending after the amendment. All pending claims have been indicated to be allowable.

**2. Rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C § 102**

Claims 1-7, 15, 17, 18, and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,955,352 (Inoue et al.). These claims have been cancelled, rendering this rejection moot.

**3. Allowable Subject Matter**

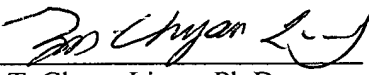
Claims 8-10, 12-14, 16, 22 and 23 have been indicated to be allowable.

**Conclusion**

Applicant believes this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 16422.005001).

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Respectfully submitted,

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